GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:136
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
DTH CHANNELS
Gadakh Shri Tukaram Gangadhar

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of channels covered under the Direct to Home (DTH) service of Doordarshan;

(b) whether the DTH service of Doordarshan lags behind the other DTH services such as Dishnet, Zee Dish etc. due to less number of channels;

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to increase the number of channels under Doordarshan DTH Service;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any guidelines in this regard;

(f) if so, the time by which these guidelines are likely to be framed; and

(g) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 136 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2005 REGARDING DTH CHANNELS

(a) : Doordarshan's Direct-to-Home (DTH) service comprises nineteen Doordarshan and fourteen Private TV Channels, besides twelve All India Radio Channels.

(b) : No, Sir. "DD Direct+" has proved to be very popular since the launch of the service on 16th December, 2004.

(c) and (d) : Doordarshan is in the process of acquiring additional hardware to increase the number of TV channels in its free-to-air DTH service from thirty three to fifty. No final decision has been taken on the modalities of inclusion of private TV channels in this regard. Besides, there is also a proposal from Prasar Bharati to further increase the number of channels to one hundred.

(e) to (g) : The participation of private TV channels on the DTH platform of Doordarshan, as and when it is expanded, will be governed by the terms of the formal contractual agreement to be entered into by Doordarshan with private channels in this regard.